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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1939.

URBAN DISTRICT OF BOWDON.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

Section A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Area of the Urban District of Bowdon is 1090 acres. The Registrar General's estimate of the population is as follows:-

For calculation of birth rate	3061.
" " " death "	3163.

The Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1939 according to the Rate Book was 890, a decrease of 109.

The Rateable Value of the District is £40,458, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £157.

The Social Conditions are good. The district is almost entirely residential. No industries are carried on and the population is but slightly affected by unemployment.

VITAL STATISTICS.		Total	Male	Female
Live Births.	(Legitimate)	31	17	14
	(Illegitimate)	3	1	2
Still Births.		-	-	-
		34	18	16

Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated population = 11.10
Still Births Rate. per 1000 total (live & still births) = NIL

Deaths. Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population = 12.65
+ Corrected by C.F. = 11.26

These figures show some change from the previous year. The birth rate has increased, and the death rate has also increased, but is still higher than the birth rate. There were no still births.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal Sepsis. Nil. Rate per 1000 total births NIL.
Other Puerperal Causes. 1 " " " " " 27.7
+ Comparability Factor. = .89

Death Rate of Infants under One Year.

All infants per 1000 live births	0
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	0
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	0

Remarkably there is no infantile morality.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0
" " Cancer.	8

There has been no excessive mortality from any cause, and there has been no outstanding cause of sickness or invalidity.

Section B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. (i) The Medical Officer of Health is a part time Officer.

The Sanitary Inspector, who also acts as Surveyor to the Council, is a whole time offical. This position is filled by Mr. A.E. Shimmings, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and S.I.E.J. Board and the Meat Inspector's Certificate (R.S.I.).

(ii) (a) Laboratory Facilities. Materials are sent to the Public Health Institute, Manchester.

(b) Ambulance Facilities. The Hale & Bowdon Joint Ambulance is available and this arrangement has proved satisfactory.

(c) Nursing-in-Home. There is a district nurse whose services are available where necessary.

(d) Clinics & Treatment Centres. None is provided by the Council, nor has the need for them arisen. The Cheshire County Council provide an Infant Clinic in Bowdon Vale.

(e) Hospitals. Altrincham General Hospital (100 beds) is available for general and gynecological cases. Obstretrical cases may be sent to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester. Use is also made of the Manchester Hospitals for general cases. St. Annes Home, Dunham Massey, is a hospital with 50 beds for diseases of the Ear, Nose, and Throat, and some medical cases are also admitted. There is an arrangement with Manchester for the reception of cases of Small-pox, should the need arise.

Section C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) Water is supplied by the Manchester Corporation. Both quality and quantity have been satisfactory throughout the year.
(ii) Drainage & Sewerage. No extension has been made during the year, and none is required.

2. Rivers & Streams. The land treatment appears to be providing a satisfactory effluent.

URBAN DISTRICT OF BOWDON.
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.
FOR THE YEAR 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Sanitary Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report on the sanitary administration of the district for the year 1939.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. (i) Water.

With the exception of two farms which derive their water from wells, the whole of the district obtain water from the mains of the Manchester Corporation. A constant supply of good water has been maintained.

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage.

No extension has been made during the year, and none is required.
The district is drained on the combined system. The sewage from the Albert Square district is treated at the Altrincham Corporation Sewage Works, and a small part of the Altrincham district is treated at the Bowdon farm. With the exception of a few septic tanks the whole of the remainder is treated at the Bowdon farm.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No pollution of the stream in the area has been reported and no action has been taken.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

There are 14 privies and 2 pail closets in the rural portion of the district. The absence of available sewers prevents the installation of water closets at these houses.

(ii) Public Cleansing.

The Household refuse is collected weekly where ashbins have been provided, and monthly from the very few ashpits which remain. The collection usually takes 3½ to 4 days. When the collection is finished the men are employed on any other work as necessary.

(iii) Street Cleansing.

Parts of the district are swept daily, the remaining portions weekly.

(iv) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Inspection of house drainage	40
" " watercourse and ditches	5
" " cowsheds	12
" " dairies	8

Inspection of milkshops	6
" " workplaces	3
" " bakehouses	7
" " places where food is produced or sold	30
Infectious disease inspections and revisits	22
Miscellaneous inspections	39

(v) Shops and Offices.

Particulars of action re ventilation, temperature, and sanitary conveniences.
No action has been necessary.

(vi) Camping Sites.

Two caravans have been placed in fields off Bow Lane. These have been used at weekends only. The sites are well looked after, and no action has been necessary.

(vii) Smoke Abatement.

There has been no smoke nuisance in the area and no action has been necessary.

(viii) Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are none within the Urban District of Bowdon.

(ix) Eradication of Bed-bugs.

		infested	disinfested.
(1) Number of	(a) Council houses	Nil	Nil.
	(b) other houses	1	1.

(2) Method employed to free the premises. Spraying with Sharratts Vermicide (lethane).
(3) Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses. None.
(4) Work of disinfestation carried out by the Local Authority.
(5) Measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or reinfestation after cleansing. No action has been necessary.

4. Schools.

There are two public elementary, and one Grammar school in the area. The sanitary conditions and water supplies have been satisfactory.

SECTION D.
HOUSING.

1. (1a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 20
b. Number of inspections made for the purpose 23
(2a) Number of dwelling houses (included under subhead (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932. 15
b. Number of inspections made for the purpose 21

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation — Nil.

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. — Nil.

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices. — 16.

3. Action Under Statutory Powers during the year

(a) Proceedings under sections 9,10, and 16 Housing Act 1936

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. — Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices. — Nil.

(a) By owners. — Nil.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners. — Nil.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. — 15.

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) By owners. — Nil.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners — Nil.

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. — Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished. — Nil.

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. — Nil.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered unfit. — Nil.

4. Housing Act 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year. — 2.

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein. — 2.

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.

	Permitted.	Actual.
	6.	6½.
	6½.	7.

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. — Nil.

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. — 2.

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases. — 12½.

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the Abatement of Overcrowding. — Nil.

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which it is considered desirable to report. — Nil.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Housing:-

Damp walls waterproofed — 4.

Eaves, gutters repaired — 6.

Housing contd.

Eaves gutters cleaned.	7.
Brickwork repaired or repointed	5.
Rainwater pipes repaired	4.
Chimney stacks repaired	1.
Flashings renewed	3.
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	4.
Flues " " "	1.
Sinks " " "	3.
Washboilers " " "	2.
Wash-houses "	0.
Waste-pipes "	3.
Water Service "	4.
Window sash cords repaired or renewed	7.
Windows made to open.	3.
Wood floors repaired	3.
Quarry " "	2.
Wall plaster repaired	1.
Skirting boards repaired	0.
Rooms cleansed	0.
Yard surfaces repaired	3.
Hand rails	4.

Drainage and Conveniences.

Drainage system repaired or renewed	7.
Choked drains cleared	3.
Soil pipes repaired	2.
Cistern repaired or renewed	4.
Buildings repaired	3.
Water closet seats repaired	3.
Water closet pans renewed	2.

SECTION E.

Inspection & Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply:-

There are six retailers and seven producers in the area. All the premises are subjected to inspections.

Number of premises registered as dairies	6.
" " persons " " cowkeepers	7.
" " persons " " purveyors of milk	30.

Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936-38.

Supplementary licences issued during the year.

Pasteurised	1.
Grade A.	0.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

There are no slaughter houses or knackers yards in the area.

Farmers occas ionally slaughter a few pigs. I am always notified of intended slaughtering, and I inspect the carcases.

There is one butchers shop in the area. The animals are killed at the Altrincham Public Slaughter house. All the meat sold is of very good quality.

From September 1939 all slaughtering must be carried out at a Ministry of Food Slaughter house, except in cases of emergency.

(c) Adulteration. etc;

No adulteration has been reported and no action has been necessary.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.
When necessary this is carried out by the Manchester Public Health Laboratory.

(e) Nutrition.
No special work or instruction has been considered necessary.

(f) Shellfish. (Molluscan).
There are no shellfish beds or layings in the district. No shellfish are marketed in the area.

(g) Slaughter of Animals Act 1933.
There are no slaughter houses or knackers yards in the area. No licences to slaughter have been issued.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

A.E. SHIMMINGS.

Sanitary Inspector.

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Section F. PREVALANCE OF, & CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES.

Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases is provided by the Altrincham Isolation Hospital. This has proved ample, and is used for most of such cases, Measles, Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever are normally nursed at home, but where considered advisable they can be admitted to Altrincham Isolation Hospital.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	2	-
Diphtheria	3	2	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Pnuemonia	1	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
	7	4	-

Other Diseases.

(a) Cancer.

There were 8 deaths from cancer during the year. No particular trade was affected. The localisation of these cases was as follows:-

3 Cancer of the Stomach.
2 " " " Neck Glands.
1 " " " Tongue.
1 " " " Breast.
1 " " " Alimentary Tract.

The Holt Radium Institute, Manchester, is available for the treatment of Bowdon cases.

(b) Blindness.

Manchester Eye Hospital can be resorted to for treatment. No preventive action has been necessary.

(c) Tuberculosis.

No action has been necessary with regard to persons suffering from tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

W.N.W. KENNEDY, M.D., M.R.C.P.Ed., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

BOWDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.